NEW-ENGLAND FARMER.

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NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

HINTS FOR THE SEASON.

The Stock.—Though we have arrived to the middle of the last winter month, there is, no doubt, a "long spell" of severe weather yet in store for us, before the advent of mild spring: and you cannot better prepare your stock for this, than by keeping their bellies filled;—and remember the old saying, (which is almost truthful enough to be called a maxim,) that "an animal well wintered, is half summered."

The House Cellar.—Clear out any decaying vegetable substances that may be in your house cellar, and in the warmest part of mild days, open the outside door or windows, for awhile, to admit fresh air. As soon as you detect any disagreeable smell in the cellar, search out the cause, and remove it at once. Rotting vegetables not only affect the sound ones, but by the noxious gas which they emit in decomposition, endanger the health of the dwellers in the house.

Cutting Alders for Fuel.—It is a good plan in winter, while alder swamps are in a frozen state, to draw on them for summer fuel, in lieu of taking trees of more value for general purposes. With a good sharp hatchet, one can cut a large quantity of alders in a day—and the work is rather pleasant than otherwise to the young. After you have cut the alders, be sure and get them home during the winter—not let them remain where felled (as we have seen them) till another year. Take advantage of good sleding, and get them home, and have them piled neatly in your yard, and let the boys chop them up at their leisure, and next summer they will be found very handy, and not the worst, fuel.

Gates for Bars.—There are few farmers so destitute of mechanical skill, as to be unable to make a substantial gate. This is a convenient, secure, time-saving, labor-saving, and we may add, *temper*-saving fixture. We know of no merit which bars have to recommend them in preference to the gate, and the substitution of the latter for the former, is always considered an improvement on a farm, as a good firm wall is in place of a flimsy fence.

Don't, if possible, depend on your neighbors for the *tools* required for such work as the making of a gate. Purchase them—and then you will not be liable to be interrupted in your work by a summons to return them at the moment, as you are in case of borrowed tools, and have to wait till the owner has done with them, before you can go on again—and then, perhaps, resume your work only to be again interrupted by another call for the tools. This is vexatious both to borrower and lender, and not unfrequently engenders ill feeling on the part of one or both. Be as independent of borrowing as you can—but we do *not* add, *refuse to lend.*

Care of Wood-lots.—Never send boys into your wood-lots with liberty to cut *where* and *what* they have a mind to. Many a fine wood-lot has suffered irreparably from this discretionary power given to thoughtless boys—and we may add, thoughtless men. Farmers in many sections of New England, are beginning to see the *necessity* of bestowing greater care on their wood-lands, and the importance of this care should be duly impressed on their sons and those in their employ. The sons are even more interested than the fathers in the protection of wood-lots, for by the neglect or improvident management of them *now, they,* in coming time, may suffer for lack of fuel.

Sheep with Lamb.—This is a critical time for your sheep that are with lamb. They should be particularly cared for now. Give them a little extra feed, keep them comfortably housed, and see that the whole flock have salt occasionally. ***

For the New England Farmer.

AWARDING PREMIUMS.

Mr Breck—It is no part of my present object in this communication, to censure in the remotest degree, any committee of any agricultural society whatever, in awarding premiums; but simply to respond most heartily to the motto of your correspondent *Justitia,* in the Farmer of Jan. 15. Be he who he may, he deserves well of the vast bulk of real hard-working farmers, whose capital consists in a sound body and resolute determination to gain their living by a faithful observance of the original command. He has surely "hit the nail upon the head," and if I had his address, would cheerfully travel twenty miles or more, to take him by the hand.

Justitia is not the only man who has mourned over the sorry spectacle, where *money* in the hands of the wealthy landholder, has won the prize which worthy *labor* and industry ought to have received. This, indeed, may have escaped your notice, but rest assured it has not escaped the notice of hundreds of the poorer class of agriculturists, who consider it useless to compete with the wealthy, with their vast money capital at command.

What possible chance has an individual with 50 or 60 acres of run-down soil, without a dollar of money capital, and a family to feed, and clothe, and *educate,*—what chance have such for successful competition with hundreds that I might mention, whose names would sound familiar to your ears? Why, sir, if I can credit your own types, Mr Benj. Poore's *barn* cost more than nine-tenths of the farms in this county (Middlesex) would sell for at auction. I find that those gentlemen who receive rewards for improvements, are those who *hire* their work done by some of their race, (either foreigners or natives,) who are too poor to "*mind wet or cold.*" These gentlemen are what a distinguished townsmen of mine, and personal friend of yours, denominates "fancy farmers." I have never met with a case where a man received premiums for work literally performed with his own hands. The *poor* people, as a whole, save the earth from utter barrenness. The retired merchant, the recipient of a fat salary, the heir at law, and the like are those who dazzle in the eye, and pocket the *shiners* offered as premiums, which are really needed to stimulate the men of small means, who have always done most in improving the productiveness of our common mother earth.

I ever read with rapture the accounts you so often publish of experiments and improvements made by the wealthy and highminded landholders of our country, and also of other countries; but how my veneration would be heightened, how my hopes would expand, could I hear of those fortunate men distributing their *tangible* "*regards*" among their poor neighbors, to encourage them to improve their poor old fields, by a faithful plowing and liberal seeding; or in the purchasing of improved implements of agriculture.

But I am admonished that I am writing for a quarto weekly, and must close this (I fear) unwelcome article on a more unwelcome subject, by barely saying, that I speak in behalf of farmers of small means, believing, with my whole heart, that "He is the most meritorious farmer, who with the *least* means effects the *greatest* improvements."

Yours, truly, A. H. W.

Pepperell, Jan. 1845.

☞If our correspondent knows of any case in which the claims of a meritorious "farmer of small means," have been slighted, and the premiums given to wealthy farmers who were *less deserving* the rewards, he knows what we do not—as we before said in our remarks appended to *Justitia's* article. If his complaint that such *is* the case, and that it operates to prevent farmers of small means competing for premiums, be well grounded, we are truly sorry for it, and would go as far as any one in condemning the course, and giving it deserved censure. We have the highest respect for that farmer who earns his bread by the sweat of his brow, and effects great improvements by his industry and energy; but farmers of more abundant means, who are not *necessitated* to labor with their own hands, but give employ to the needy, we cannot consider undeserving of respect or reward, though their improvements are effected by the aid of money capital. Their example and experiments are frequently of benefit to their less opulent neighbors, who are unable to undertake such experiments in processes and plans, for lack of means and on account of the hazard; but if any great good results from these experiments, they may, most likely, profit from them. Good husbandry is alike commendable in rich and poor, and the influence of good example in the one, is as potent as in the other.

We would—every good man should—frown upon and condemn the attempt to excite prejudice in the honest poor against the fortunate rich: equally would we frown upon and condemn in any one, a *slight* of the poor, whose capital is their bones and muscles. We will only add, that we fully concur in the sentiment of "Justitia," endorsed by A. H. W.; and if such farmers *do not* share the rewards offered for good husbandry, then we think the circumstance forms *one* exception to the truth of the poet's sentiment, that—"Whatever is, *is right.*"

"The primal curse of labor, was a blessing in disguise."

From the American Farmer.

CONVERSATION ON THE ECONOMY AND MANAGEMENT OF THE FARM.

Q. How should a farmer act to accumulate and husband the greatest amount of manure?

A. It is difficult to answer a question so vaguely put. Before any one can give any thing like a solution approaching to reality, it would be necessary to know the kind of farm, of meadow, number and kind of stock, quantity of land in grass, vegetable productions and kind, and many other particulars connected with the particular system of farming pursued. It is possible, however, to throw out such general hints as may serve as a guide, and by which we may arrive at such conclusions, as will enable any careful, observing farmer, to make the most of the *materials* within his reach which are convertible into manure.

Q. Now, that is what I mean by my question. Will you oblige me by giving your views?

A. I will do so with pleasure; though before I commence, I wish you to bear in mind that what I may advance upon the subject, is to be considered only in the light of *opinion*, upon which you are to exercise your own judgment freely. In the first place, a farmer ought to make it an important part of his system of farming, to accumulate everything on his farm susceptible of being converted into manure, and place it in a condition to be availed of without material loss. It has long been my opinion, that every man who works a farm of from two to five hundred acres, would find it to his interest to keep a team and hand constantly engaged in the collection of materials and the formation of manure heaps, as without such economy and forecast, the exhaustion of his land, which is continually going on by the growth of his crops, must impoverish his soil and render it unproductive.

Q. How could a farmer find employment for a hand and team thus to be occupied?

A. There are usually many sources on a farm to give occupation in the way I have spoken of—full occupation to a hand and team. Where there is a salt marsh, that of itself would afford ample materials, for there are few richer or more fertilizing substances than marsh mud, if properly combined into composts with lime or marl—the sea-weed of the shores, if compounded with alternate layers of mould and leaves from the woods, or soil of any kind, the layers to be strewed with plaster, will make an excellent and enriching *pie;* the scrapings of the roads, barn and other yards and headlands, are all excellent to mix with the dung and litter of horses and cattle; the weeds from the fence corners, lanes, and every where else, should be gathered and formed into compost heaps, with earth of any kind, and plaster. In a word, there are no substances which are susceptible of rotting, which will not make good manure, some richer than others, but all *good*. The soap-suds and slops from the kitchen, would, if properly husbanded, convert in a year, a body of earth into manure sufficient to fertilize an acre or two. You see I have opened to you a wide field, whence to draw manure.

Q. But would the benefits justify the expense?

A. Of that there can be no question. Say that a man could obtain, 230 out of the 313 working days, 2000 loads in a year, which is allowing 8 loads per day—that would enable you to manure 100 acres, independent of your usual supply from the stable, barn-yard and pig-styes—each of which acres would, by a moderate calculation, be improved in productiveness at least 33 1-3 per cent. Would it not be reasonable to say that each load of this manure would be worth 50 cents? This would be equal to $4 a day for the hire of the hand and team; so that all above the actual cost of their hire, would be your gain. But your gain is not to be computed by any such contracted rule, as the increased value to be imparted to the soil, in its present and future condition of productiveness, should be taken into consideration, for every 20 loads of such manure would be equivalent to the fertilization of an acre of ground, for any period in which it might be required for a rotation of crops, whether that should be four or six years, provided two of the series be appropriated to grass.

Q. Have you named all the materials which are convertible into manure?

A. In saying that every thing or substance susceptible of *rotting*, may be converted into manure, I speak in terms sufficiently broad to comprehend all things, whether vegetable or animal; but as you appear to desire that I should be more particular, I will name a few other articles. The *urine* of the stock of horses and cattle on a farm, where twenty head may be kept, if the proper means were taken to prevent its loss, could be rendered equal to the manure of an acre per head. The stalls of the horses should always be kept well strewed with straw or leaves, or mould and leaves, so as to absorb the liquid voidings, and to prevent the escape of the ammonia, as the decomposition of these voidings might be going on, the stable should be strewed with either plaster or charcoal, daily, and as the stables are cleaned out, which should be done daily, the mass of manure, litter, &c., should be disposed of either by putting in a cellar, or under cover in the yard, so as to prevent loss from evaporation. This can be done by having earth thrown over each day's manure, as it may be put upon the heap or in the cellar. Again, a few loads of earth should be placed sufficiently near the house to receive the contents of the *chambers*, which earth should be formed into a basin-like shape. Each emptying should be covered over with fresh earth, and on that, plaster, or charcoal, be strewed. The importance of this kind of care-taking and economy, may be very readily imagined when I tell you that a gallon of human urine, thus treated, would afford ammonia enough to nurture a bushel of wheat, and if the ammonia were *fixed*, as it would be by the addition of plaster or charcoal, it would remain in the earth for years, to impart its benefits to successive crops. My own impression is, that if the liquid manure made on a farm were to be saved in the way I have pointed out, that it would be worth more to the farmer than all the solid manure made in his stable and barn-yard.

Q. I think I have heard you say that very stiff clays might be improved by the application of sand. How would you use the sand?

A. I have expressed such an opinion, and I have done so from a practical experience of its benefits. I recollect, some years back, to have had in cultivation a small lot, about one-half of it a piece of as cold, stiff, retentive clay, as ever challenged the strength of team, or worried the patience of plowmen. I hauled into my cow-yard a hundred loads of sand, which I spread evenly, giving to the centre of the yard a basin-like form. On the top of the sand I spread fifty loads of mould and leaves from the woods, taking care to spread it as I had done the sand, leaving the sides higher than the centre. In this yard my cows were folded and littered through the latter part of fall, winter and spring. Just before the frost set in, I had the lot plowed up, lapping the furrows so as to expose the greatest surface to the action of the frost. As I desired to get a crop of millet off the lot the ensuing season, preparatory to laying it down in timothy, I cut three covered drains through it, 2 feet wide and 18 inches deep. In the spring, I scraped up and mixed the contents of my cow-yard, adding to the mass 200 bushels of coal-ashes, incorporating the whole together. This, as soon as the frost was out of the ground, in the spring, I spread over the lot, 170 perches in extent, plowing it in as deep as a good wood plow and two horses could plow it; let it remain until the middle of May, when I harrowed cross-plowed, harrowed again, sowed half a bushel of millet seed, harrowed it in lightly, and finished by rolling. The product on the acre and ten perches, was 4 tons of good millet hay. In the August following, I plowed again, to sow timothy seed, and found the soil completely altered in texture, yielding to the share of the plow as does a rich cheese to the knife of the cheeseman. The yield of timothy during the four years that I afterwards remained on the place, was always good, ranging from 1 1-2 to 2 tons per acre. From this experiment I am satisfied that stiff clays can be more lastingly meliorated by sand than by manure. In connection with this lot, I will remark, that when I put it down in timothy, I spread sixty bushels of lime on it, which was harrowed in with the seed.

Q. Would you recommend the littering of hog-pens?

A. I am glad you mentioned this. I know no part in the arrangements of the farmer, where more or better manure may be manufactured with as little expense. Whatever is given to the hog-pen, whether coarse tussocks, cornstalks, peat, weeds, or mould and leaves from the woods, is sure to be manipulated into excellent manure. Ten hogs, if well supplied with materials, would make 60 loads of good manure in a year. That which is occasionally taken out, should be formed into a heap so as to turn off water, and have plaster put over it, and it would be better if covered over a few inches deep with earth of some kind, to prevent too rapid decomposition.

Q. Your plan of saving manure is certainly a good one, but I fear it would prove too costly to be carried into practical effect.

A. You are under a delusion there. Nothing can be said to be "too costly" which returns a remunerating interest for the outlay of money. The object of every one who toils is, or should be, to be rewarded by a generous return for the labor bestowed and capital invested, and certainly it is the part of wisdom to give his labors that direction which promises the most certain and richest rewards. Even a large farm, if not cultivated with an eye to improvement, will make a rich man poor, as it is not the extent of an estate, but its capacity for production, that adds to his wealth. A few years devoted to manure-making in the way I have mentioned, would enable the owner of a poor farm to make it rich. But he who crops every year, contents himself with taking everything out of the land, and putting little or nothing into it, must expect sooner or later to find it and himself impoverished. It is as necessary to feed the land as it is the beasts which assist in tilling it: neither can maintain their strength without a due quantity of food.

SCAB IN SHEEP.

The scab in sheep, the mange in cattle, horses, dogs, &c. and the itch in man, are well ascertained to be caused by parasitic insects, (though of a different class from lice or ticks,) belonging to the *Acari* or mite tribe—exceedingly minute in size, and living in the skin of the animals with which they are brought in contact. The origin and economy of this class of insects, have attracted from naturalists considerable attention. That their origin is sometimes spontaneous, owing to the neglect or mismanagement of the animal, is known; yet when once brought into existence, they have the same differences of sex, and in their propagation are governed by the same laws, as animals of the higher orders. In relation to the mysterious but interesting question as to how these animals first have existence, Mr Youatt eloquently observes:

"Physiologists are fast acknowledging the work of a mysterious but noble principle—the springing up of life under new forms, when the component principles of previous beings are decaying, or have seemingly perished. Thus if we macerate any vegetable substance, the fluid will teem with myriads of living beings, called into existence by the process we are conducting, or rather by that power of nature or that principle bestowed by the Author of nature, that life, ceasing in one form, shall spring up in others, and this while the creation lasts! Thus we have, probably, the hydatid in the brain of the sheep, and the fluke in its liver—parasitical beings which we recognize in no other form, and in no other place. *They were the product of the diseased part.* In like manner, the acarus of the scab may be called into existence by the derangements which our neglect, or unavoidable accident, or disease, may have made in the skin of the sheep; and having sprung into life within the pores of the skin, obeys the laws of all living beings as to its after existence and multiplication."

Waltz, a German veterinarian, made some curious experiments with the acari. He found if some of the females are placed on the wool of a sound sheep, they quickly travel to the root of it, and bury themselves in the skin, a minute red point, scarcely visible, distinguishing the place where they penetrated. The tenth or twelfth day afterwards, a slight swelling may be discovered, the skin changes its color, and has a greenish blue tint. The pustule forms rapidly, and about the sixteenth day, breaks; the mothers again appearing, with their little ones attached to their feet, and covered by a portion of the egg from which they have just escaped. The little ones immediately penetrate the neighboring skin, find their proper nourishment, grow and propagate, till the poor animal, under the torment occasioned by the myriads which prey on him, rapidly sinks down, and at last dies.

Waltz also placed some of the male acari on the sound skin of a sheep. They burrowed into the skin, and in due time the pustule arose; but all indications of the scab soon disappeared by the use of any remedy. He therefore concluded that the disease can be communicated from sheep to sheep only by means of the contact of the sound animals with the diseased, or, as they lie near others, impregnated acari travelling from the infected to the sound sheep. The itching which diseased animals suffer, induces them to rub themselves much against posts, or any projecting substances, and these rubbing places become, undoubtedly, fruitful sources of infection.

From what has been said, it must be obvious that the cure of scab lies in the destruction of this insect. Washes of tobacco, hellebore, &c. are sometimes used, but as the insect lies within the skin, we can never be certain of reaching it with these remedies. They may sometimes prove successful, but in general they only mitigate the disease, which, though it may thus for some time be kept in a latent state, will at length break out, to the disappointment and vexation of the shepherd.

A safer method is the application of some substance that will be sure to poison the acari. An ointment compounded according to the following directions, has proved in our own practice, entirely efficacious.

Let one pound of pure quicksilver, half a pound each of Venice turpentine and common oil, and four pounds of hog's lard, be triturated in a mortar, till the quicksilver is thoroughly incorporated with the various ingredients.

In using so strong a preparation of mercury, care should be taken that the sheep are properly protected from bad weather. It was in the depth of winter, and in a very cold climate, that we had occasion to use this ointment. Not being at that time acquainted with scab, the sheep became very seriously affected before disease was identified. Some of the flock lost nearly all their wool, and their bodies, nearly covered with ulcers, presented a most disagreeable appearance. They were put into a barn, kept comfortably warm, and not allowed to go out, except for a short time in the middle of the pleasantest days. In using the ointment, a lump half the size of a hen's egg was used to each sheep, and particular pains were taken to rub it well into the large veins about the neck. It was also rubbed along the back, and in the worst cases, in lines down the sides. Every sheep was saved, and in three weeks all were well; while some of our neighbors, who, from fear of the effects of mercury, trusted to other applications, lost many; and after having kept the disease lingering among their sheep for more than a year, killed them, and burnt up the carcasses to stop the infection.—*Alb. Cult.*

PICKLING SEED WHEAT.

From "Sketches of East Lothian (Scotland) Husbandry," in the London Agricul. Gazette, we extract the following:

"Seed wheat is invariably prepared for sowing by pickling—a process resorted to for the purpose of preventing smut. The liquid most commonly employed for this purpose, is stale urine, and the process of steeping or pickling is generally as follows:—Two tubs, one of which may be larger than the other, are required for the operation. The barn-floor being well cleaned, the larger tub in which the seed is to be steeped, is placed on an elevated stand, and the other vessel containing the urine, laid alongside it on the floor. The pickling tub is then nearly filled with the grain, and the urine poured on it till the tub is full. The seed is well stirred with a shovel, and after being [all thoroughly moistened and allowed to remain five or ten minutes, the liquid is withdrawn into the other vessel. The wheat is then laid in layers upon the floor, and a quantity of newly slacked lime, sufficient to absorb the moisture, sifted over each layer. A fresh lot of wheat is now put into the steeping tub, and the same process repeated, until the required quantity for sowing is prepared. Before sowing, the seed is turned over and mixed, and no more is pickled at one time than what can be sown on that or the following day. Stale urine is universally regarded as the most efficacious pickle, though salt and blue vitriol are also occasionally used."

For the N. E. Farmer.

CITY MARKET HOUSES.

Mr Editor—Sir—Among all the additions and improvements made in the city for ten years past, I am surprised that no movement has been made to extend and enlarge the city markets. The bold and successful undertaking of building the Quincy market, twenty years ago, seems to have satisfied the citizens that nothing more can ever be needed; but when it is considered that the population has *more than doubled* since its completion, it must be obvious that more extensive accommodations are needed for the increasing wants of the city.

Furthermore, in my humble opinion, Mr Editor, the Quincy market as it is now leased and managed, is somewhat of a monopoly, for I understand the leases of stalls are always renewed on application of the old leasees; consequently, the young and enterprising are excluded, and have no chance for competition. I further understand that when any of the occupants wish to retire, a large price is demanded for the privilege of hiring of the city: in some instances as high as one thousand dollars has been paid.

These being somewhat near the facts, it appears to me that the city authorities should take immediate measures to enlarge the market, by re-establishing that under Faneuil Hall, which can be done without diminishing the income, for I have no doubt the premises would rent for as much for market stalls, as is paid by the present occupants.

This subject is of great importance to the city, and will justify a very large expenditure, particularly for a *public market*, where the producers from the country could come into competition, and thereby reduce prices.

A FARMER.

The Apple Worm.—We give the following, from a letter from R. L. Pell, Esq.: "I have for years been at a loss to know from whence the worm was derived, which is always found in fallen fruit, or in that ripening prematurely. By accident, last spring, when my fruit trees were in bloom, a limb of an apple tree was cut off; I examined the blossoms, and discovered numerous small worms, precisely like those found in the fruit at a later period: even many of the buds still unopen, contained a worm. I observed as the fruit enlarged, the worm ate its way into it, and caused it to fall. The season was still cold, and not a fly of any description had yet appeared. The conclusion I arrived at was, that the egg had been deposited early in the autumn, in the bud intended for the fruit the ensuing season."—*Alb. Cult.*

Premiums.—The principles upon which your judges award their premiums, are of the greatest importance. It is by no means true that the best farm, the best animal, or the largest crop, is always entitled to the *first*, or even to *any* premium. Though it may be true that the man is a benefactor of his race "who makes two blades of grass grow where but one grew before," it is equally true that he is *no benefactor of the farmer*, if his two blades triple the expense of the usual mode of raising one. Award your premium to him who *does the best with his means*, whether great or small.—*Fred. J. Betts's Address before the Berkshire Agricul. Soc.*

NECESSITY OF SUPPLYING THE SOIL WITH THE CONSTITUENTS OF THE CROPS GROWN ON IT.

☞The new light which the improved state of science is throwing on agriculture, must be hailed by all *thinking* farmers with joy. At present, this light is restricted in its radiance, but a few, comparatively, out of the ranks of the learned, feeling its beneficial influence. But the time seems to be approaching—let us bid it speed—when in the culture of the earth, *science* will guide practice, and good farming—the *most profitable* farming—become an art which will require the skilful exercise of intelligent MIND, more than the exercise of physical power, to pursue it with the greatest success.

Chemistry—the patron-genius of agriculture—is now lending its aid as it never before lent it, to dispel the darkness which has too long enveloped the farmer in his pursuit, and teaching him to see, and enabling him to comprehend, the true processes by which his crops and animals are formed, and the necessary conditions required to make the one heavy and the other fat, at the least expense and with the most profit. This desirable light is being constantly diffused by scientific men, particularly in England and Scotland, in lectures and communications through the press, and thousands seek it as eagerly as they do their own prosperity, and, indeed, their prosperity depends, in an important degree upon it.

To no one, we think, are the farmers on either side of the Atlantic, more deeply indebted for efforts to benefit them by imparting valuable scientific knowledge, than to Prof. Johnston, of Scotland. The following abridged report of one of his late lectures before the *Dumfries Farmers' Club*, on the necessity of returning to the soil the constituents of the crops taken off, I think will interest many of your readers:

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"The different substances of which plants are composed, must exist in the soil on which they grow: according to the nature of the plant to be reared, so ought the land to be manured. Thus, while wheat grain contained only two per cent of ashes, hay contained 10 per cent. Hence the wheat required a much larger amount of combustible aliment than hay. It was true that the whole of the combustible matter was not obtained directly from the soil, as a large portion was derived from the air; but from five to ten per cent. of the straw of wheat was obtained from the soil; hence the provision made in some leases, that no straw should be carried off the land. Different kinds of hay carry off different quantities of inorganic matter from the soil, and consequently have different effects upon the land.

Every plant that grows, requires, in accordance with the nature and composition of soil, the proportion of the ingredients in its ashes. If no alteration of crop is made, nature will become exhausted in some of her resources, and the plant, for want of requisite nourishment from the soil, must die. We have facts to prove that nature will not forever grow the same plant on the same soil. The Black Forest consisted first of oak, then of pine, and now it is again covered with broad-leaved trees; and as with trees, so with crops; and as on a large, so on a small scale.

Different modes of husbandry have been adopted. Instead of oats being grown 15 or 20 years on the same soil, the rotation of three white crops and six years' grass was adopted: this also, has become antiquated, and now the preferable alternation of white and green crop is adopted. Alternating crops, and adding such manures as have been carried off by preceding crops, is the only profitable mode of cultivation, while nature will also assist by the going on of certain circumstances, such as the decomposition of minerals, &c.

A soil containing just sufficient lime for a luxuriant crop of rye-grass, would be far deficient for either clover or lucerne. The soil must contain in abundance what your crop specially requires, and consequently the necessity of selecting the manure to suit the crop wanted.

The ground becomes exhausted in many ways. By cropping too long with either one kind or different kinds of grain, and carrying off both grain and straw, it becomes exhausted of some of its soluble matter by the action of rains, just in proportion to the wetness of the soil. By the application of proper manures, the waste may be replaced. Feeding on the ground will replace a portion of the waste of solid matter, by the dung voided by the animals; but a great portion of the *soluble* is lost, both by being, to a small extent, irrecoverable, and because of the direct waste by carelessness or ignorance. These soluble or saline substances, are pricipally contained in the urine of cattle, and just in proportion as it is lost, so is the direct waste. Guano is not a more valuable manure than the urine of cattle. By building suitable tanks, the whole of the barn-yard saline might be preserved, and 900 lbs. of good solid matter, equal to the best Peruvian guano, would be the annual produce of one cow. We have frequently been astonished at the results of certain saline substances when scattered over unhealthy plants, and by the first shower washed into the soil and immediately consumed by the plant as its proper and necessary food; and just in proportion to the ease with which it gets the substances upon which it is supported, and of which it is composed, will it vegetate and flourish.

To resume: Suppose any of the substances of which a plant is composed, to be already in the ground in sufficient proportion, then any addition cannot do good. Suppose soda to be in sufficient quantity for hay, any addition would be unprofitable for a rye-grass crop, while it would be of immense benefit to clover or lucerne. And again, some soils contain it in sufficient quantity for every variety of crop, consequently any addition would be unprofitable. Hence the reason of so many conflicting opinions respecting the utility of various manures. One tries gypsum, in whose soil it is deficient, and finds it an invaluable manure; another applies it to his soil, which is already well supplied with it, and pronounces it worthless.

Milk contains so much bony earth, that in 75 years, a cow pastured on an acre of land, will carry off a ton of bones. Hence, (the Professor said,) some lands used for dairy purposes in Cheshire, had, in the course of years, deteriorated to such a degree that they were not worth more than from 5s. to 10s. per acre, just because the cows pastured on them had carried away all the bone out of the soil. Bone-dust was at length applied as a top-dressing, and the results were so astonishing, that the land increased 700 per cent. in value, and the rector's tithes were increased five-fold. Any or all other manures, had the soil wanted bone, would have proved ineffectual. The bones added just what had gradually been taken off in the lapse of years, in consequence of the peculiar husbandry of the district."

A grocer in Philadelphia advertises Westchester county milk "of the *first water*."

PERMANENCY OF GUANO AS A MANURE.

This is a subject of great importance at present, when the importation of this manure is going on to a large extent, and when the propriety of using it, and extending its use, must be occupying the attention of farmers in all parts of the country. Many of the best practical agriculturists in this neighborhood have long been satisfied of the permanent advantage of guano to the land.

At the Highland Society's competition at Glasgow, in October, for seed wheat, Mr Campbell, who gained the £10 prize for white wheat, exhibited five varieties from his farm, the average weight of which was 66 1-2 lbs. per bushel. The Chevalier wheat, weighing 65 lbs., was after turnips raised with guano, and was the heaviest crop on the farm.

At a recent meeting of the Farmers' Club, and other agriculturists, held at Drumore, the subject of the permanency of guano manure was discussed. The chairman, Mr McCulloch, said—In 1842, I applied to turnips, on three plots of ground, all contiguous, as follows: to the first, guano, at the rate of 4 cwt. per acre; to the second, bone manure, at the rate of 30 bushels; to the third, good farmyard manure, at about 20 tons per acre. The crop upon guano braided first, and was thinned out four days sooner than those on the other plots, and continued throughout the whole season to have a more luxuriant appearance; and when weighed, it was about one-sixth heavier than that grown upon bones, and about one-fifth heavier than that upon dung. And the oat crop upon the guano was superior in quality, and the quantity of grain and straw was greater than upon either of the two other plots, and now I can distinguish no difference betwixt the grasses in quantity or quality. So far as I could judge from the foregoing, guano, as a permanent manure, has exceeded my most sanguine expectations.

Mr McBride said he had made similar experiments, which served to corroborate the views of Mr McCulloch.

Mr Anderson stated that he had grown potatoes with guano, at the rate of four cwts. per acre, which yielded him as good a crop as potatoes put in with fifty cartloads of sea-weed, and twenty cartloads of good farm-yard manure. His wheat crop was as good after guano manuring as after ordinary manuring; his sow-out was also as good, the pasture affording an equally good sole of grass with guano as the ordinary manuring did. He had also tried nitrate of soda, soot, gypsum, and guano, as a top-dressing for grass, and, on the whole, he thought guano the best, and equally cheap.

Mr McCulloch had tried guano also as a top-dressing for hay and pasture land. The effect was rapid and great.

Both of these gentlemen recommended the practice of forcing a portion of hay land with guano early in the spring, as a great benefit to horses and cattle, for feeding in the house, after the turnip has become scarce and fibry. A small patch, dressed with a small quantity of guano, will suffice to give very early a great quantity of good grass; and the second crop, or after-cut, will be as heavy and productive as ever, while the permanent pasture will be greatly benefited.—*Caledonian Mercury.*

Aristhenes wondered at mankind, that in buying an earthen dish, they were careful to sound it, lest it had a crack; yet so careless in choosing friends, as to take them flawed with vice. How few persons at the present day would ever discover and apply so beautiful and striking an analogy!

☞The subjoined interesting history of improvements in the plow, is from the pen of SANFORD HOWARD, Esq., the worthy and intelligent editor of the Albany Cultivator—alike worthy as a farmer, as an editor, and as a MAN. The credit which he justly accords the Mass. Soc. for the Promotion of Agriculture, of being the first to institute plowing matches and encourage improvements in the plow, is a distinction of which they may well be proud. —ED. FAR.

IMPROVED PLOWS.

The improvements in agricultural implements of various kinds, within the last twenty or thirty years, has been very great. In the plow, particularly, there has been almost an entire revolution, both in the kind of material used, and in the general form and construction. A single example of the manner in which, within the memory of the writer, (thirty years,) the operation of plowing was performed in a New England neighborhood, (not by any means behind the age in agricultural advancement,) will serve to show in a striking light, the improvement which has been effected in this most important implement of husbandry. In plowing "green-sward," the force commonly employed was three yoke of oxen, with a horse to lead, or two yoke of oxen and a pair of horses, with two drivers, one man at the plow-handles, another at the beam, to "bear on" in hard places, and, if the ground was at all rough, a man to follow the plow with a stout hoe, to mend "baulks," and turn over furrows. An acre was considered a good day's work. Now mark the contrast. On the same farms, the same fields, with a tougher sward, are now plowed with one yoke of oxen, (sometimes with the addition of a horse,) and often with only one man, who is both plowman and driver. An acre and a half is plowed in a day, in a style infinitely superior to the former mode. Besides, notwithstanding the superior excellence and durability of the new implement, its cost is at least one-fourth less than that of the old one.

This modern improvement in plows, it may be safely averred, originated in the encouragement offered by agricultural societies. The Massachusetts Society for the Promotion of Agriculture, early manifested a deep interest in this matter. The institution of plowing matches in this country, the credit of which belongs to this Society, it is believed gave the first decided impulse to improvement in this direction. Their first plowing match took place at Brighton, in October, 1817. The offer of premiums for the best plow, by this, and other associations, soon followed; and by the competition which was thus in various ways created, improvements were started and pushed on, till at the present time, a degree of perfection has been reached in some of the best constructed plows, to which it seems almost impracticable to make any farther additions.

As Massachusetts took the lead in the institution of plowing matches, and the offering of premiums for the best plows, a brief sketch of the progress of improvement in that State, will be read with interest.

At some of the first trials of plows under the direction of the State Ag. Society, at Brighton, those made by Jesse Warren, of Dedham, Charles Howard, of Hingham, and —— Hall, of Sutton, attracted particular attention. The first premium, at the first trial, (1817,) was awarded to Mr Howard and his partner. At this trial, the once famous English *Beverstone* plow, was brought into competition with those of American manufacture, by the late John Prince, Esq., of Roxbury. For several years, the plows used at these trials, were made of wood, ironed in the old mode. A cast-iron mould-board, the share and other parts being made as before, was, after a while, adopted by Mr Howard, and about the same time, some plows wholly of cast-iron were introduced. The latter were Tice's and Wood's. Some cast-iron plows were also imported from Scotland. But the iron plows were slow in coming into use. Those of the Tice and Wood patterns, were frequently used at the Brighton trials. They were admitted to run with less resistance than most of those made of wood, but from their extreme shortness, and the abrupt position of the mould-board, they did not turn a sod-furrow so handsomely as was desired, and on this account were not very successful in obtaining prizes. The castings were also bad—the plows broke a great deal, which created a prejudice against cast iron plows, not very easy to overcome—and various circumstances combined to throw the Wood and Tice plows into disuse.

In the mean time, the mechanical principles on which the plow should be constructed, engaged the attention of men of the strongest minds. The late Hon. Timothy Pickering, who, after his retirement from an important political post, the Secretaryship of State, to which he had been appointed by Washington, engaged in agricultural pursuits with great zeal, laid down the following rule for the construction of the mould-board:

"Having fixed a straight line by one cut of a saw from the upper corner of the mould-board behind, to its point forward, cut away the wood above and below that line in such a manner that when finished, if you carry a straight rule from the fore to the hind part, keeping it all the way at right angles with the straight line, it shall touch the face of the mould-board, in its whole breadth, in straight lines, through its entire winding, so that its upper corner behind shall overhang the lower sufficiently to effect a complete turning of the furrow-slice."

The above rule is in accordance with the principles advanced by Mr Jefferson in his letter to Sir John Sinclair, and which have been and are still adhered to, in all modern improvements of the plow.

As the trials of plows by the Massachusetts Society, annually brought the various competitors together, a progressive improvement was every year observable. Mr Warren, by study and practice, greatly improved the construction of his plow. It made beautiful work: many premiums were awarded to it at the Brighton plowing matches, where for several years it was much esteemed. Mr Warren finally got out patterns for iron plows, on the general principle of his wooden one. Some of these we have held with our own hands. They were good plows, though destined soon to be eclipsed by better ones.

Mr Howard continued to add improvements to his plow, and was very successful in obtaining prizes. About the year 1825, Messrs. Prouty & Mears, with various patterns of the "Hitchcock" plow, became conspicuous among the successful competitors. The Hitchcock plow may be considered the basis on which have been engrafted the various improvements that in these days have rendered the plows of Messrs. P. & M. famous over the whole country.

Other competitors also entered the field. Prominent among these, were Messrs. Ruggles, Nourse & Mason, who were not long in securing a share of the honors to be gained in the contest. For several years past, it may be said that the competition in Massachusetts, has been between the three last named firms—that is, between those of Howard, Prouty & Mears, and Ruggles, Nourse & Mason.

Each of these concerns manufacture a large number of plows of various patterns, and there are large warehouses in Boston, where all of them, as well as other implements, are extensively sold. We have before spoken of the establishment of Messrs. Breck & Co., where Howard's plows are sold, [including his premium subsoil,] and that of Messrs. Ruggles, Nourse & Mason. In our visit to Massachusetts, in October last we visited the warehouse and manufactory of Messrs. D. Prouty & Co., successors to Prouty & Mears. Their store is in Boston, and their manufactory in South Boston. The latter is a very large establishment. The building is 120 feet long, 36 feet wide, and four stories high. They manufacture plows of various patterns, though they are mostly on what is called the "centre-draft" principle—that is, the beam is placed over the centre of the weight of the plow. These plows have acquired an extensive reputation, and orders are constantly received for them from all parts of the Union.

Messrs. P. & Co. also make many subsoil plows of different kinds; also harrows of very superior construction; sowing, or planting machines; straw cutters, and most other farming implements. Every tool is made of the best material, and in the most finished style of workmanship. All their operations seem to be conducted with much system, and great regularity and neatness are observed throughout.—*Alb. Cult.*

Importation of American Cheese into England.—In an English journal, we find the following statement, copied from parliamentary returns, showing the increase in the importation of American cheese into that country, since 1831 up to 1844:

	Cwt.
1831,	9
1832,	50
1833,	None.
1834,	1
1835,	6
1836,	1
1837,	1
1838,	2
1839,	None.
1840,	41
1841,	15,154
1842,	14,098
1843,	42,312

A Good Compost for Sandy Land.—Take 10 loads of stable or barnyard manure, 5 loads of clay, 20 bushels of ashes, and 20 bushels of lime; mix the whole well together, and let it remain in pile a few weeks; then turn it over, and it will be fit to apply to the land.

The above will make a better dressing for an acre of sand than twenty or twentyfive loads of stable or barn-yard manure alone, and will last longer.—*Amer. Far.*

Rapid Growth.—The Maine Farmer says, that Mr Ephraim Wood, of Winthrop, lately killed a pig which weighed 357 pounds, at the age of 8 months and 15 days. This is a gain of nearly a pound and a half a day, from its birth to its death.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,
AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

Edited by Joseph Breck.

Boston, Wednesday, Feb. 12, 1845.

AGRICULTURAL MEETING AT THE STATE HOUSE—Tuesday Evening, Feb. 4.

Hon. Morrill Allen in the chair. Subject—*Culture of Fruit and Fruit Trees.*

On account of the severe storm which raged with so much violence during the evening, the number present was rather small. A committee was in session, and occupied the hall until eight o'clock, after which the meeting was called to order, and as the gentleman who had engaged to open the discussion was not present, the veteran farmer of Framingham, Maj. Benj. Wheeler, was called upon to make some remarks relative to the subject. He responded readily to the call. The cultivation of fruit, he said, was of great importance to the farmer. When he first moved into Framingham, 40 years ago, he could not buy apples fit to eat: most that were cultivated were sour, crabbed fruit, fit only to make into cider, which was then thought about as necessary an article in the family as bread stuff. Cherries were hardly known, and there were very few peaches or other fruit; but within a few years, the subject has received much attention, and much fine fruit had been introduced.

He thought the cultivation of choice fruit had a tendency to promote the health and happiness of a family, affording a greater luxury, and better than the imported fruits. He said it was for the interest of the farmer to cultivate a succession of fruit, so as to have a supply the year round; and of all the varieties, apples were the most substantial.

As to Peaches, in some sections of the country they can be cultivated to good advantage, but were more difficult to raise than most fruits. While they succeeded in some sections of a town, in other portions of it the crop would fail, and he was puzzled to account for it.

The Plum had been much neglected, and for good reasons. When he was a boy, there were abundant crops of plums: afterwards, the trees were affected with warts or excresences; these for many years injured the trees, and plums were very scarce; but within seven years they have succeeded well with him: they are sometimes injured by a storm about the time of ripening, which causes them to crack open and rot.

There was no difficulty with the cherry: it was easy to cultivate, and produced abundant crops every year.

The Pear was as easily cultivated as the apple. It was thought formerly that it required a longer time to bring it into bearing than the apple, but now, when budded on the quince, the trees would bear the second or third year after transplanting; and it was very pleasant to see a small tree, no larger than a hoe-handle, with 20 or 30 fine pears upon it. An old tree could be grafted over with choice fruit, and in three years a good crop may be expected.

In grafting old trees, he cuts only a part off first, and lets the old fruit remain until the new comes into bearing—cuts off by degrees, and thinks the trees do better by so doing. The operation of grafting was very simple, and any person could do it with a little practice; but he could remember the time when it was thought a difficult operation and very few could do it. He had tried wax for grafting, and does not approve of it, and has given it up: when he used it, the scions seemed to make but little wood, and the limb does not heal over so readily as when clay is used: he adds to the clay cow manure, and puts in a little hair, to make it bind together, and does not think it necessary to apply a bandage.

Mr Stone, of Hardwick, inquired of Mr W. what was the best soil for the pear tree?—whether it would thrive on gravelly soils? He had seen some beautiful trees in Mr Earle's garden, in Worcester—very small indeed, but full of fruit: the soil looked rich, like some sort of compost.

Mr Wheeler replied, that he had no great preference for any particular soil;—if the soil was poor, he enriched it: his soil was naturally rather light and sandy.

He put out an orchard on a light gravelly soil, many years since, and his neighbors ridiculed him for so doing; but his orchard had flourished well. It had been thought that the Roxbury Russet must be raised on strong clayey soils, to produce fair fruit; but this orchard set out 30 years ago, on poor soil, having been put in good condition, within a few years has renewed its youth, and borne abundant crops of fine Russets.

He thought peat mud mixed with ashes, a good manure for light soils. A townsman of his had set out between 200 and 300 pear trees on sandy soil, manured with this compost, and they were doing well; and Mr W. said most soils well cultivated, would produce good trees. He throws out his peat mud in the fall, and lets it be acted on by the frost. If applied before it has been frozen, it will be lumpy and does not pulverize well. His common mode of preparing peat is to mix with 2 loads of it one of horse manure, and adds a little lime. He carts this compost on to his land in the fall, and plows it in in the spring, and on his light soil plows deep.

Mr Buckminster said there was a difference in the quality of peat: some kinds would do to apply without any mixture. One great virtue in peat was that it retained moisture, and thus benefited dry soils. He remarked that Mr Wheeler had raised fine fruits on very poor soil.

It was thought by some that the facilities for transportation by railroad and steamboat, would ruin the prospects of selling fruit, and that the business of cultivating it would be overdone. Mr B. said he did not fear any thing from this cause, for if peaches and other fruit were brought into our market from the South, before our crops ripened, we could send our crops East by the same facilities. He thought the market was increasing.

In transplanting trees, care should be taken not to set them too deep: many failed in consequence of so doing. He spoke of a man who succeeded in raising quince trees from cuttings. The ground was covered about the cuttings with shavings: all grew, and some made a growth of two feet the first season—the soil having been made rich and dug deep. He would plant trees shallow, and put some coarse litter round, which would keep the ground moist, and check the growth of weeds. Some practice planting potatoes about a tree, for the purpose of keeping the ground light—but he was not in favor of it, or anything else, as it would injure the tree. He is opposed to staking.

Hon. B. V. French said, individuals commencing now in the cultivation of fruits, had a great advantage over those who began at the time Mr Wheeler did, as much information had been gained upon the subject within a few years. The variety of good fruits was almost endless, and a person once getting interested in their culture, it often becomes a mania with him. If he hears of a new fruit, he is not easy till he obtains it, but is often disappointed when it comes into bearing. Mr F. remarked that he had for many years been collecting everything new, and had at this time at least 250 or more varieties on his farm. It was too many, and he should probably settle down upon 20 or 30. He would recommend to a new beginner, to set out young and thrifty trees without regard to quality, and after they have got well under way, apply to some experienced horticulturist to furnish him with scions of such fruits as will give him a succession, and graft his trees. He thought the nurserymen a deserving class, but in their multiplicity of business, liable to make mistakes.

He thought highly of the Newton Pippin: it is an apple that will keep until June and July. He said there had been a deficiency of fine apples in October and November, but that it had in a measure been supplied by the introduction of the Fameuse, or Canada apple, which keeps in eating till January, and is handsome, very tender, and of fine flavor. Heath's Nonsuch is one of our earliest apples, and pretty good: the Early Harvest comes next, but better for cooking than eating, unless it remain on the tree till fully mature.

Mr F. is of opinion that our native fruits are better than foreign varieties; he knows of but one or two foreign kinds of apples that are worth cultivating—one of these is the Gravenstein, a very good fruit. A foreign gentleman had told him that he could find better apples in New Hampshire than in any part of the world.

In regard to Pears, it was more difficult coming to a conclusion what was best to cultivate, than it was with apples. More than 800 varieties were described in English catalogues, but a great proportion had been discarded as unworthy of cultivation, by the London Hort. Society, and he thought, very judiciously. It was uncertain whether a variety considered good in England, would do better or worse here. Some varieties will do well one year and not succeed another. This was true with the Julienne. The Beurre Diel all cracked with him at first, and he had his trees altered: but he was too precipitate: his neighbors have succeeded better: it was a very fine September pear. Other pears have been introduced which at first were pronounced bad; but the next year were found to be fine. There were now many very fine varieties cultivated—among them some which had originated here: these, he thought more suited to our climate. Some varieties of pears will do well in the vicinity of Boston, and not succeed in the interior. He had seen magnificent specimens of the Duchess d' Angouleme Pears, that a grocer gave $3 per dozen for two dozen, and $2 50 for another dozen; he commenced retailing them at 50 cents apiece, and finished by selling them at 75 cents each! Mr F. considered this a desirable variety. Dr Cox, of Burlington, N. J., had succeeded well in raising this variety in a blowing sand.

In regard to Plums, he thinks the excresences are infectious, and recommended to cut all down and burn, and put out young trees free from the disease, and if any appears on them, cut it off. Plum trees do better where the soil is a little saline. He had conversed with a gentleman at Long Island, who had applied salt to his trees, and there was no injury from the Curculio. Others see no good effect from it. Mr F. thought there was such a thing as over-manuring. He spoke of the importance of the cultivation of currants, and other small fruit. The meeting now adjourned.

The same subject continued to the next week.

☞We acknowledge the receipt of a box of apples, (after a detention of nearly 30 days on the way,) from Lovett Peters, Esq, of Westboro'. The apples had begun to decay, but not so far gone as to prevent us from detecting the curious mixture of sweet and sour in the same apple, alluded to in his letter. They reminded us of the Irishman's hog, which the owner thought could be so managed, by starving one day and over-feeding the next, as to lay on a streak of fat and a streak of lean, so that it might be more agreeable to his palate. The sweet and sour in our friend's apples, appear, as he says, to run in streaks in the same way. They are quite a curiosity.

☞Our thanks are due to Henry Watson, Esq, of East Windsor, Ct., for the Transactions of the Hartford Co. Agricultural Society for 1843 and 1844—a work of 110 pages, containing reports and other documents of interest to the agriculturist.

☞The publishers of the Southern Cultivator would oblige us by sending the two numbers of their paper containing the address before one of the literary societies of the college at Athens, published some months since.

THERMOMETRICAL.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

Range of the Thermometer at the Garden of the proprietors of the New England Farmer, Brighton, Mass. in a shaded Northerly exposure, to the week ending Feb. 9.

Feb. 1845.	7 A.M.	12, M.	5, P.M.	Wind.
Monday,	3	2*	11	12	N. W.
Tuesday,	4	8	16	24	N. E.
Wednesday,	5	24	34	25	S. E.
Thursday,	6	15	20	14	N W.
Friday,	7	1	11	12	N. W.
Saturday,	8	6	17	15	N. W.
Sunday,	9	8	18	15	N. W.

*Below.

BRIGHTON MARKET —Monday, Feb. 10, 1844.

Reported for the N. E. Farmer.

At market 600 Beef Cattle and 1000 Sheep,—25 Beef Cattle, exclusive of 50 which arrived too late and are not included above, remain unsold.

Prices — *Beef Cattle* —The quality of the Cattle this week was better than last, without any advance in price We quote Extra $5,25 a 5,50 First quality, $5 a 5,25. Second quality, $4,50 a 4,75. Third quality, $4 a 4,50.

Sheep.—Common sheep from $1,75 to 2,25 Weathers from $2,25 to 4,50. One lot very fine and heavy $5.

Swine.—None at market except a few ordinary, reported last week.

WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT.

Corrected with great care, weekly.

SEEDS. Herds Grass, $2 00 a 2 25 per bushel Red Top 50 to 70 cents. Clover—Northern, 10 to 11c.—Southern, 8 a 9 c. Flax Seed. $1 50 per bushel. Lucerne, 33 c. per lb. Canary Seed, $2 00 a 2 25 per bushel. Millet, 1 75 to 2 00.

GRAIN. The demand for the most part of the week has been very limited, but the arrivals being light, prices are fully supported, and sales of good Mealing Corn have been made at the extreme quotations.

Corn—Northern, new, bushel 00 00—Southern, round yellow, 00 a 00—Southern flat yellow, 50 a 51—do. do. white 48 a 49—do New Orleans, 45 a 50—Barley 00 a 00—Rye, Northern, 75 a 77—do. Southern, 72 a 75 —Oats, Southern, 32 a 33 — Northern do. 00 to 35—Beans, per bushel 1 50 a 1 75.—Shorts, per double bush. 32 a 33—Bran, 23 a 25.

FLOUR. The usual transactions of the week have been a good deal interrupted by the unfavorable state of the weather; very little has been done with the country trade, and sales are pretty much confined to the wants of dealers.

Baltimore, Howard Street, 4 mos. cr. new, $4 81 a 0 00—do. wharf, $4 62 a 4 75—do. free of garlic, $0 00 a 0 00—Philadelphia do. 4 mos. $0 00 a 4 67 — Fredericksburg, low f'd new $0 00 a 4 67—Alexandria, wharf, 0 00 a 4 67—Georgetown, $4 75 a 4 87—Extra do. 5 00 a 5 12—Richmond Canal, $4 75 a 0 00—do. City, $5 50 a 0 00—Petersburgh, City, $5 00 a 5 50—do. Country $4 62 a 4 75—Genesee, common, cash, $5 12 a 5 18— do fancy brands $5 25 a 5 37—Ohio via Canal, $0 00 a 0 00—do do New Orleans, cash $4 75 a 4 87. Rye, $0 00 a 0 00—Indian Meal in bbls. $2 62 a 0 00.

PROVISOINS. The market for Pork is rather advancing, and the demand during the past week has been more active.

Beef—Mess 4 mo. new bbl. $8 50 a 9 00—Navy—$7 50 a 8 00.—No. 1, $6 75 a 7 00—do Prime $5 75 a 6 00—Pork—Extra clear 4 mo. bbl. $12 50 a 00 00—do Clear $12 00 a 00 00 do. Mess, $11 00 a 11 50—do Prime $0 00 a 9 00—do Mess from other States.— a — —do Prime do do $0 00 a 0 00 do. Cargo do. 0 00 a 0 00 —Clear do do $00 00 a 00 00—Butter, shipping, 12 a 15—do store, uninspected, 11 a 12—do dairy, 15 cts. a 18—Lard, No. 1, Boston ins. 00 a 7 —do South and Western, 6½ a 7— Hams, Boston, 8 a 00 — Southern and Western, 7 a 8—Cheese, Ship'g and 4 meal, 5 a 6½—do new milk, 7 a 7½

WOOL. Duty. The value whereof at the place of exportation shall not exceed 7 cts. per pound, 5 per cent. ad val. All whereof the value exceeds 7 cts. per pound, 40 per ct. ad. val. and 3 cts per pound.

There continues to exist a good demand for fleece and pulled, and sales have been made at our quoted rates; a fair business has been done in foreign coarse, without any change in prices.

Prime or Saxony Fleeces, washed, lb. 45 a 50 c.—American full blood do 40 a 42—Do. 3-4 do 37 a 38—Do. 1-2 do 35 a 36 1-4 and common do 32 a 35 — Smyrna Sheep, washed, 20 a 22— Do. unwashed, 10 a 15 — Bengasi do 6 a 12—Saxony, clean. 00—Buenos Ayres unpicked, 7 a 10—do. do. picked, 10 a 14—Superfine Northern pulled lamb 38 a 40—No. 1 do. do. do. 33 a 35—No. 2 do do do 23 a 30—No. 3 do do do 14 a 18.

HOPS. Duty 20 per cent.

200 bales have been taken for shipment since our last report, and small lots for home consumption, prices being nominally the same as previously reported.

1st sort Mass 1843, lb. 13 a 14 ; 2d do 0 a 0.

HAY, 16 to 18 per ton—Eastern Screwed $12 to 13,

EGGS, 15 to 20.

A very valuable Farm at Public Auction.

Will be sold at Public Auction, at 12 o'clock, noon, on WEDNESDAY, the 5th of March, on the premises,

The valuable Farm, lately owned and occupied by Peter Daniels, deceased, situated in the southwestern part of Franklin, Mass., about two miles from Franklin meeting house, and five or six miles from Woonsocket Falls, together with the stock and farming utensils.

The farm contains about 190 acres of good land, divided into lots of suitable size, with the usual proportion of pasture, mowing and tillage, and fenced with good substantial stone walls.

There are about 30 acres of woodland on the place, and 12 or 15 acres of productive cranberry meadow.

The buildings, which are ample and convenient and in perfect repair, consist of one large two story dwelling house, with an ell; a one story house; two large barns, with sheds attached; a horse barn; carriage house; wagon house; corn crib and other out buildings.

A stage running between Boston and Woonsocket, passes the house daily, and the contemplated railroad between those places will probably pass within a short distance of the place.

Any person wishing to purchase can examine the premises at any time previous to the sale, and refer for further particulars to the occupants of the place, to Willis Fisher, Esq. or Capt. Ichabod Dean, of Franklin, to Mr. David A. Fisher, of Wrentham, or to GEO. P. DANIELS,

Feb 4, 1845. 2 South Main st. Providence.

GRAIN AND MEAL BAGS.

3,000 Grain Bags, holding two bushels, and very strongly made, for sale cheap, by CHARLES R. BOND & CO.

Feb. 4, 1845. 45 Water, corner of Congress sts.

HOWARD'S PREMIUM SUBSOIL PLOWS.

The subsoil Plow is unquestionably the most important agricultural implement of modern invention. It is considered by the best informed practical farmers of Great Britain and our own country, as an indispensable article in the most profitable husbandry. Says that eminently skilful and intelligent agriculturist, Mr. Phinney, of Lexington: "such is the estimate in which I hold this important implement, that I should consider it a great piece of improvidence to put in a crop without first subsoiling the ground." The subsoil Plows manufactured by Mr. Howard, are of two sizes—the smaller obtained the highest premium offered by the State Agricultural Society at its late exhibition at Worcester. The committee to award the premium on Subsoil Plows, in their report say:—"The committee were pleased with the neatness and firmness of structure of these Plows—characteristics which have distinguished all the Plows of Mr. Howard that have come within their observation. *Utility* and not *show*, are their peculiar features. * * They were astonished to find with what ease and perfection the hard pan could be stirred, and broken to the depth and width of 8 or 9 inches, for such was the operation of the medium size Plows, with a power not exceeding that ordinarily required for moving a surface Plow at the same depth—and they found the Plow might be guided with less labor abd fatigue than the surface Plow. * * They confidently recommend the subsoil Plow to the attention of the farmers of the Commonwealth."

The improvement in the length of the handles of Mr. Howard's Plows, suggested by the committee, has been made—and the undersigned are now prepared to furnish these invaluable implements wholesale and retail.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

N. E. Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, 51 & 52, North Market Street, Boston.

Dec. 18, 1844. tf.

BEMENT'S AMERICAN POULTERERS' COMPANION.

The American Poulterer's Companion — A Practical Treatise on the Breeding, Rearing, Fattening and General Management of the various species of Domestic Poultry, with Illustrations and Portraits of Fowls taken from life. By C. N. Bement, Albany. Published by Saxton & Miles, New York. For sale by JOSEPH BRECK & CO.—Price $1 25.

BACK VOLUMES OF THE AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO. have received a few sets of the 3 back volumes of the American Agriculturist, elegantly bound in cloth. Price $3 75 per sett.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.,

NEW ENGLAND

Agricultural Warehouse

AND

SEED STORE.

51 and 52 North Market Street, Boston.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO. having received a full and general assortment of FIELD, GRASS, GARDEN and FLOWER SEEDS, worthy of cultivation, confidently recommend them as being pure and of the first qualities, unmixed with other varieties; they have no hesitation in saying that their collection of Seeds is the best, and of the greatest variety ever offered for sale at any establishment in the U. States.

AGRICULTURAL BOOKS of all kinds, constantly on hand.

AGRICULTURAL AND GARDEN IMPLEMENTS of all kinds, among which are the following, viz:—1000 Howard's Patent Cast Iron Ploughs, 200 Common do. do, 200 Cultivators, 100 Greene's Straw Cutters, 50 Willis' do. do. 100 Common do. do, 100 Willis' Patent Corn Shellers, 50 Common do. do, 200 Willis' Seed Sowers, 50 do. Vegetable Cutters, 50 Common do. do., 200 Hand Corn Mills, 200 Grain Cradles. 100 Ox Yokes, 1500 Doz Scythe Stones, 3000 do Austin's Rifles, 100 doz. Cast Steel Shovels, 150 do. Common do. 100 do. Spades, 500 do. Grass Scythes, 300 do. Patent Snaiths, 200 do Common do., 500 do. Hay Rakes, 200 do. Garden do., 200 do. Manure Forks, 300 do. Hay do. 500 Pair Trace Chains, 100 do, Truck do. 100 do Draft do, 500 do. Tie up do, 50 doz. Halter do, 1000 yards Fence do, 25 Grind Stones on Rollers.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.,

N. E. Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, 51 and 52 North Market Street. Boston.

GARDEN AND FIELD SEEDS.

The subscribers are now receiving their fall supply of Garden, Field and Grass Seeds, and would respectfully recommend to their customers to send in their orders as early as possible to secure a supply from their choicest lots. Their stock of seeds for this season will be very full and complete, and most of the varieties being raised under their own inspection they can confidently recommend them as being fresh and genuine. Among them are Long Blood, Early Turnip and Sugar Beets; Ruta Baga, Mangel Wurtzel, Orange Carrot, Radish. Cucumber and Cabbage of sorts. Also, Peas, Beans and Squashes, which together with a large supply of most kinds of seed desirable for the field or garden, comprise the most complete and extensive assortment of seeds to be found at any similar establishment in the country. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Oct. 2.

MILK ESTABLISHMENT FOR SALE.

The subscriber being about to relinquish the milk business, offers for sale, his entire milk establishment, consisting of 23 Cows, 1 Milk Cart and Wagon, and an excellent run of custom. JOHN PARKINSON,

Oct. 16, 1844. Walnut Street, Roxbury.

AFRICAN GUANO.

The cargo of the brig Samos, just arrived direct from Africa. This Guano has been analyzed by J. E. Teschemacher, Esq., and pronounced by him as fully equal to the best cargoes received in the London or Liverpool markets. Purchasers can depend on this as being the *genuine* article. For sale, in quantities to suit, by

CHARLES HOFFMAN, Salem.
VERNON BROWN, 5 Merchants' Exchange.
J. BRECK & CO. 51 & 52 N. Market St., up stairs.

Sept. 17 3m.

CORN SHELLER.

A Corn sheller is one of the most convenient and labor saving implements that the practical farmer has in use. Various machines for this purpose have been invented. It can be used in all cases for large or small sized ears. It is very simple in its construction, and durable in its operation, and no way liable to get out of order; one man can work it to good advantage, though a man to turn, and a boy to feed it, works it much better than one alone. They are so light and portable, as to be easily removed from place to place, and one machine will serve for several families or even the inhabitants of a small town.

For sale at the Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store Nos. 51 and 52, North Market Street.

JO. BRECK & CO.

CAST IRON SLED SHOES

For double and single Runners, of all sizes, also, Barn Door Rollers, from 3 to 10 inches, for sliding doors, for sale by HENRY RICHARDS,

Dec. 7, 1844. No. 109, State street.

MISCELLANEOUS

Chinese Mode of Taking Wild-fowl.—The Chinese mode of taking wild-fowl, with which the neighborhood of Canton abounds, is curious, and somewhat unsportsmanlike. There is no missing fire—no powder getting damp—no barrel bursting—no bother with dogs—nothing but sport, and no mistake. Whenever they see a quantity of ducks settled in any particular piece of water, they send half a dozen gourds to float among them. These gourds resemble the pumpkins in England; but being hollowed out, they float on the surface of the water. At first, the fowl are shy at coming near them, but by degrees they get courage; and as all birds at length grow familiar with a scarecrow, they soon gather round them, and amuse themselves by "whetting their bill" against them. When the birds have become so familiar as this with the gourds, a Chinese hollows out a pumpkin which is pretty large, and after making holes in it to see and breathe through, he claps it on his head. Thus accoutred, he wades slowly into the water, keeping his body under, and letting nothing be seen above the surface but the pumpkin, in which is his head. In this manner he moves imperceptibly towards the fowls, which suspect no danger. At last he fairly gets in amongst them; while they, having become used to seeing gourds, take not the least alarm, even when the enemy is in the very midst of them. Whenever the man under the pumpkin approaches a fowl, he seizes it by the legs, and by a jerk draws it under water. He then fastens it to his girdle, and proceeds on to the next victim, till he has loaded himself with as many as he can walk off with.—*Capt. Pidding's China.*

The Steam Engine.—The steam engine, in its present improved state, appears to be a thing almost endowed with intelligence. It regulates, with perfect accuracy and uniformity, the number of its strokes in a given time, and, moreover, counts, or records them, to tell how much it has done, as a clock records the beats of its pendulum. It regulates the supply of water to the boiler, the briskness of the fire, and the quantity of steam admitted to work; opens and shuts its valves with absolute precision; oils its joints; takes out any air which may accidentally enter into parts where a perfect vacuum is required; and when anything goes wrong which it cannot itself rectify, it warns its attendants by ringing a bell. Yet with all these talents and qualities, and even when possessing the power of 600 horses, it is obedient to the hand of a child. Its aliment is coal, wood, or other combustibles; *but it consumes none while idle!* It never tires nor wants to sleep. It is not subject to any malady, when originally well made, and only refuses to work when worn-out with age.

It is equally active in all climates, and will do work of any kind. It is a water pumper, a board planer, a miner, a sailer, a cotton spinner, a weaver, a blacksmith, a miller; and a small engine, in the character of a steam pony, may be seen dragging after it, on a railroad, a hundred tons of merchandize or a regiment of soldiers, with greater speed than that of our fleetest coach-horses. It is the king of machines, and a permanent realization of the *Genii* of Eastern fables, whose supernatural powers were occasionally at the command of man. —*Selected.*

Seasonable Hint.—When you enter a room or house, shut the door after you.

Magnificent Project.—Mr Whitney, a distinguished merchant of New York, has submitted to the attention of Congress, the construction of a railroad from the western shore of Lake Michigan, in a direct line through to the Columbia river, covering a distance of some 2100 miles, which shall be the point of embarkation for China.

The cost of the road, when completed, is estimated at fifty millions of dollars, and twentyfive years would be required to perform the scheme. Eight days would be about the travelling time from New York city to the terminus of the road, and if steam facilities were employed, some twentyfive more would convey one to Amoy, in China; so that by this, a short cut journey across the globe might be accomplished within the narrow limits of a single month.

An inveterate better chanced to step into an apothecary's shop, and when about leaving, incidentally remarked—"Well, I do n't want any physic today."

"You do n 't know that," said the knight of the pestle and mortar, "you may fall down and break your leg before you get to the post office."

"I 'll bet you a dollar I do n't," replied the other.

"Oh, no, that 's not a good bet," was the reply.

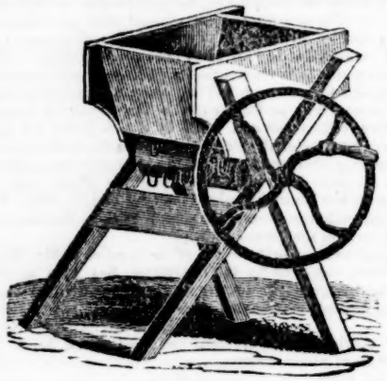
"Well, then, I 'll bet I do!"

The apothecary declined the bet.—*N. O. Pic.*

Apt Reply.—Judge Warren, of New Bedford, at the New England Society's dinner, in New York, in reply to Mr McDuffie's toast, about the "unnatural aristocracy" of New England, exclaimed: "Yes! it is an unnatural aristocracy: an aristocracy that, instead of being *rocked* in a cradle, was cradled on a *rock!*"

"If we are to live after death, why do n't we have some certain knowledge of it?" said a skeptic to a clergyman.

"Why did n't you have some knowledge of this world before you came into it?" was the caustic reply.



WILLIS'S

Latest Improved Vegetable Cutter.

For sale at the New England Agricultural Warehouse, No. 51 and 52 North Market Street, Boston, Willis's Latest Improved Vegetable Cutter. This machine surpasses all others for the purpose of Cutting Ruta Baga, Mangel Wurtzel, and other roots. The great objection to other machines, is their cutting the roots into slices, which makes it almost impossible for the cattle to get hold of them: this machine with a little alteration, cuts them into large or small pieces, of such shape as is most convenient for the cattle to eat. It will cut with ease from one to two bushels of roots per minute.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Nov. 1.

GREEN'S PATENT STRAW CUTTER.

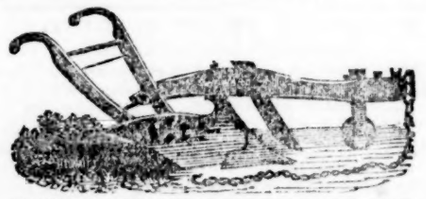
JOSEPH BRECK & CO. at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store Nos. 51 and 52 North Market Street, have for sale, Green's Patent Straw, Hay and Stalk Cutter, operating on a mechanical principle not before applied to any implement for this purpose. The most prominent effects of this application, and some of the consequent peculiarities of the machine are:

1. So great a reduction of the quantum of power requisite to use it, that the strength of a half grown boy is sufficient to work it efficiently.

2. With even this moderate power, it easily cuts two bushels a minute, which is full twice as fast as has been claimed by any other machine even when worked by horse or steam power.

3. The knives, owing to the peculiar manner in which they cut, require sharpening less often than those of any other straw cutter.

4. The machine is simple in its construction, made and put together very strongly. It is therefore not so liable as the complicated machines in general use to get out of order.



HOWARD'S IMPROVED EASY DRAUGHT PLOUGH.

Great improvements have been made the past year in the form and workmanship of these Ploughs; the mould board has been so formed as to *lay the furrow completely over, turning in every particle of grass or stubble, and leaving the ground in the best possible manner.* The length of the mould board has been very much increased, so that the Plough works with the greatest ease, both with respect to the holding and the team. The Committee at the late trial of Ploughs at Worcester, say,

"Should our opinion be asked as to which of the Ploughs we should prefer for use on a farm, we might perhaps say to the inquirer, if your land is mostly light and easy to work, try Prouty & Mears, but if your *land is heavy, hard or rocky,* BEGIN WITH MR. HOWARD'S."

At the above mentioned trial the Howard Plough *did more work, with the same power of team, than any other plough exhibited.* No other turned more than twentyseven and one half inches, to the 112 lbs. draught, while the *Howard Plough turned twentynine and one half inches, to the same power of team!* All acknowledge that Howard's Ploughs are much the strongest and most substantially made.

There has been quite an improvement made on the shoe, or land side of this Plough, which can be renewed without having to furnish a new landside: this shoe likewise secures the mould board and landside together, and strengthens the Plough very much.

The price of the Ploughs is from $6 to $15. A Plough sufficient for breaking up with four cattle, will cost about $10 50, and with cutter $1, with wheel and cutter, $2 50 extra.

The above Ploughs are for sale, wholesale and retail, at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store Nos. 51 & 52 North Market Street, by

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,

A WEEKLY PAPER.

Terms, $2 per year *in advance*, or $2 50 if not paid within sixty days.

N. B.—Postmasters are permitted by law to frank all subscriptions and remittances for newspapers, without expense to subscribers.

TUTTLE AND DENNETT, PRINTERS,

21 SCHOOL STREET.